

Message Text

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PAGE 01 AMMAN 01828 300827Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 DOTE-00 SSM-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /043 W

-----302109Z 046226 /46

R 300643Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1114

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

UNCLAS AMMAN 1828

ATHENS FOR RTSO

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, ELTN, JO, SY

SUBJECT: PROPOSED NEW JORDAN-SYRIA RAIL LINK

REF: A) USDOC 5380, B) AMMAN 1350, C) DAMASCUS 1920

D) 1975 AMMAN 6799

1. GOJ-SARG COOPERATION ON RAILWAY LINK BETWEEN JORDAN AND SYRIA SEEMS NOT TO INCLUDE PERFECT MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING OF STATUS OF PROJECT. UNDERSECRETARY OF GOJ MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT, HASHAM TAHER, REAFFIRMED (REF B), PARA. 1) TO EMBASSY THAT PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT INVITING INTEREST IN FEASIBILITY STUDY AND PRELIMINARY TECHNICAL STUDY IS TO BE ISSUED SHORTLY, PENDING ONLY APPROVAL BY SYRIAN-JORDANIAN HIGH COMMITTEE. HE DID AGREE WITH SYRIAN COUNTERPART (REF C) THAT FINANCING PROJECT MAY BE SERIOUS PROBLEM. UNDERSECRETARY ESTIMATED COST OF AMMAN-DAMASCUS LINK AT \$150 MILLION. SINCE JORDAN DOES NOT HAVE THAT AMOUNT OF MONEY AVAILABLE, AND IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT SYRIA DOES, UNDERSECRETARY HOPES THAT PROJECT CAN BE IMPLEMENTED IN STAGES.

2. REGARDING EXTENSION OF STANDARD GAUGE RAIL LINE FROM
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AMMAN TO AQABA, TAHER NOTED THAT GOJ COMPLETED NARROW GAUGE LINE ALONG PART OF THIS ROUTE IN LATE 1975 AT COST OF OVER \$100 MILLION (REF E). CONVERSION TO STANDARD GAUGE COULD NOT BE UNDERTAKEN FOR 7-8 YEARS AND IN ANY CASE WOULD BE SUBSEQUENT TO COMPLETION OF DAMASCUS-AMMAN LINK.

3. COMMENT--IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT GOJ AND SARG MINISTRIES OF

TRANSPORT ARE NOT READING FROM SAME SCRIPT. IN VIEW OF CONFUSION
AT WHAT SHOULD BE RATHER ADVANCED STAGE OF PLANNING, APPARENT
LACK OF AGREEMENT SUGGESTS THAT ACTUAL IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN
IS LONG WAY OFF.
PICKERING

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RAILROADS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770109-0533
Format: TEL
From: AMMAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977039/aaaaahcc.tel
Line Count: 67
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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SAS ID: 3197690
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TAGS: BEXP, ELTN, JO, SY
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Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bec112bd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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